

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the final office action mailed on October 28, 2003. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment raises no new issues, places the claims in a condition for allowance and/or in a better condition for appeal and therefore is in full compliance with Rule 116. Prompt entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Specifically, claims 1, 3 and 8-12 stand rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,180,316 ("Kajita"). In the final office action, the Patent Office clearly states on page 4 that Kajita only meets the limitations of claim formulas 3, 5 and 7. Similarly, in the "response to arguments" section of the final office action, the Patent Office only states that Kajita discloses formulas that meet the limitations of formulas 5 and 3. See page 5, line 12 and page 6, line 3.

Therefore, without raising any new issues, applicants have deleted Formulas 3, 5 and 7 from independent claims 1 and 3 thereby rendering these claims allowable over Kajita and the other prior art of record as set forth on page 5, paragraph 5 of the final office action. No new issues are raised thereby and therefore applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to independent claims 1 and 3 are in full compliance with Rule 116 and thus are entitled to an early entry.

Also, without raising any new issues, claim 6 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 3 as amended in the previous amendment filed on August 19, 2003. Thus, the amendment to claim 6 renders both claims 6 and 7 allowable without the introduction of any new issues.

The remaining claims, 8-12, all depend directly from allowable claim 3 thereby rendering these claims allowable.

Therefore, no new issues have been raised, no additional searching is required and this amendment has placed this application in a condition for allowance and an early action so indicating is respectfully requested. If the examiner has any further questions regarding this matter, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

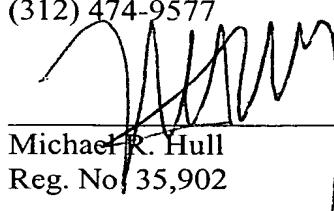
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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